

VLR 12/4/02

NRHP 4/11/03

Mosby Tavern, Powhatan County, VA

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

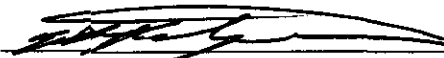
OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Propertyhistoric name Mosby Tavernother names/site number Littleberry Mosby House; Cumberland Old Courthouse;
VDHR # 072-0054**2. Location**street & number 2625 Old Tavern Road not for publication N/A
city or town Powhatan vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county Powhatan code 145 Zip 23139**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official _____ Date 2/12/03**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>6</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>6</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling; secondary</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>structure</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>tavern</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>courthouse</u>
	<u>processing; animal facility;</u>
	<u>storage</u>

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Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling; secondary
structure
AGRICULTURE agricultural outbuilding
animal facility
RECREATION sports facility (pool)

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
roof METAL
walls WOOD: Weatherboard
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
COMMERCE

Period of Significance ca. 1740-1952

Significant Dates 1741-1774;
1849, 1859

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Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Benjamin Mosby, Littleberry Mosby, Sr.

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other Name of repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 20 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	761700	4161610	2	17	761790	4161300
3	17	761610	4161270	4	17	761500	4161560
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.							

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

Mosby Tavern, Powhatan County, VA

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Robyn O. Horton

Organization: N/A date 04/2002

street & number: 10443 Millbank Road telephone 540 775 4470

city or town King George state VA zip code 22485

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Dr. & Mrs. Donald P. Sanders

street & number 2625 Old Tavern Rd. telephone 804 598 2750

city or town Powhatan state VA zip code 23139

=====
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Mosby Tavern
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Summary Description:

Mosby Tavern is a center-hall-plan, frame, two-story dwelling with flanking one-story wings that stands southeast of the intersection of U.S. Route 60 and State Route 629 in Powhatan County, Virginia. It has evolved from a small single-pile, one-room house built about 1740. Architectural details of the dwelling, such as the board and batten siding on the wings, indicate that major additions to the core were made primarily in the mid-nineteenth century. Mid-nineteenth- and twentieth-century additions have altered the structure so that it now appears as an I-house with wings and a two-story rear addition. Two end chimneys flank the central mass. Several mature shade trees, crepe myrtles, and lilacs surround the house as well as flowerbeds and shrubbery. The house is approached by a circular gravel driveway off Route 629.

The property includes several contributing outbuildings dating to the first half of the twentieth century as well as two non-contributing resources built in the late twentieth century. Together, these structures reflect the evolution of both the property and the county from colonial days to the present. Most importantly, however, the dwelling stands as a remnant of colonial settlement. It was here that the Mosby family hosted both social and political activities along a main stage road that connected Richmond and Lexington.

Description

The rural dwelling, known as Mosby Tavern, faces north along Route 60, one of the oldest roads and major thoroughfares in central Virginia. Route 60 runs parallel to and south of the James River, connecting Richmond with Lexington. Although Powhatan County is rapidly being developed, the area around Mosby Tavern, in the western portion of the county, still retains its rural character. Open fields lie across the road as well as to the south and west of the dwelling. Surrounding the house are enclosed pastures, several agricultural buildings, a pool and pool house to the south, and a pond to the west. The two-story frame structure, though in excellent condition, has undergone additions and alterations since the eighteenth century. These additions document its growth from a small, multi-purpose eighteenth-century structure into a comfortable private residence of the late twentieth century.

Originally a one-story, single-pile, hall-parlor plan frame dwelling shown on early nineteenth-century insurance policies as 34 feet by 28 feet, Mosby Tavern is now a center-hall-plan, two-story frame dwelling with nineteenth-century one-story wings.¹ A rear addition was added in the mid-twentieth century to accommodate a kitchen and informal living area on the first floor and bedrooms on the second floor.² The dwelling is sheathed with weatherboard siding and covered

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by a low, hipped roof of standing-seam metal. Tall brick chimneys flank the two-story central mass and there is one exterior end brick chimney at the rear addition. The east and west chimneys are constructed of brick laid in a variable American bond with a 5:1 course bond below the roofline. The east chimney serves a fireplace in the dining room east of the center hall, the east wing addition, and a bedroom on the second floor. The west chimney serves a fireplace in the basement, the living room west of the center hall, the west wing addition currently used as the master bedroom, and a bedroom on the second floor. The south chimney is constructed of brick laid in American bond and it serves the rear addition. The doors are wood with both four and six panels throughout the dwelling. The rear side of the basement door is the only one remaining with wood graining, a popular technique used during much of the nineteenth century. The windows have double-hung sash and vary in the number of lights. The windows in the central section of the dwelling are eight-over-twelve light sash on the first floor and eight-over-eight sash on the second floor. There are also two fixed, six-light windows in the foundation on the west side of the front porch, serving the original basement room below the right main-floor room. The windows in the east and west wing additions and the rear (south) addition are six-over-six. The porches are located at the main entries on the north and south elevations. The front porch on the north elevation is one story, three bays wide, with square posts and a standing-seam metal roof. The paneled front door has four-light sidelights and a three-light transom. The rear porch, though added in the twentieth century and slightly larger, was constructed to resemble the front porch.³ It runs the width of the rear addition and is covered by a standing-seam metal roof. The porch is one story, four bays wide with square posts, and steps at each end.

Land tax records indicate significant alterations in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were made—modifying the structure's appearance from a one-story, single-pile house to a two-story I-house with a rear addition. According to land tax records, the value of the dwelling increased significantly in 1849 and again in 1859, indicating that substantial additions were made to the dwelling during the mid-nineteenth century.⁴ It is likely that the main block was enlarged and the one-story wing additions (sheathed with board and batten siding with a scalloped cornice) were added during that ten-year period. The board and batten treatment on the wings is typical of the Gothic Revival, a style popularized between 1840 and 1880. The wings originally sat on brick piers, which have since been infilled with concrete block. The present appearance of the structure, with the east and west additions, "illustrates the forms and details associated with the vernacular architecture of Powhatan."⁵ According to a county architectural survey, the I-house first appeared in Powhatan in the mid-1800s as it evolved from a traditional form that "grew to include additions and local stylistic details."⁶ The center portion of the dwelling has a box cornice with moldings similar to other county structures.⁷ The Hatcher family added the two-story rear addition around 1950 and the present owners extended the east side of the addition and added the rear porch shortly after they purchased the property in 1988.⁸

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Despite the additions, much of the interior remains unaltered in the single-pile, central-passage plan section. The center passage features an open well, dogleg stair with rectangular newels and molded caps. The balusters are rectangular in section—two per tread. The landing at the top of the first flight of stairs opens to the rear addition; two steps above this landing and to the north, lead to the second floor center hall with one bedroom on both the east and west sides. The floors throughout the dwelling, including the additions, are wide-plank pine. The walls throughout the single-pile portion are covered with plaster and single-part baseboards. Most ceilings are plain, but the original west room has exposed and beaded joists.⁹ The mantel in this room is the only hand-carved, decorative surround original to the house, featuring reeded pilasters, a reeded keystone centered on the frieze, and a molded mantelshelf. There are three other mantels in the house—one in the dining room (east of the center hall), and plain painted mantels in each of the front bedrooms on the second floor. The mantels in the bedrooms are painted black, a common practice in rural dwellings of the early nineteenth century. Additionally, there is one plain and unfinished mantel in the basement.¹⁰

The contributing outbuildings on the property date to the early and mid-twentieth century when the Hatcher family used them in conjunction with raising livestock. They form a half-circle to the rear of the dwelling, accessed by a gravel drive off Route 629. Southeast of the dwelling is a frame shed presently used for chickens. The building is supported by concrete piers, sheathed with weatherboard siding, and covered by a gable roof of standing-seam metal. Southeast of the chicken shed is a four-bay equipment shed which stands close to the road. It is sheathed with vertical board, stands over a poured concrete floor, and is covered by a shed roof of standing-seam metal. An old dairy barn stands southwest of the equipment shed in an area enclosed by a three-rail board fence. The two-story barn is constructed of concrete block and covered by a gambrel roof of standing-seam metal. There are double, sliding doors on the north elevation and nine two-over-two light windows on the east and west elevations. There is a small one-story addition on the northeast corner of the barn, also constructed of concrete block and covered by a gable roof of standing-seam metal. Remnants of a silo stand at the southeast corner of the barn. A chicken house, now used for storage, stands northwest of the barn. This long, rectangular frame building stands on a concrete block foundation and is sheathed with weatherboard. It is covered by a gable roof of corrugated metal. A frame shed stands northwest of the chicken house on a slight rise. It is built on a concrete foundation and has walls of weatherboard, and a gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. There are fixed six-light windows on each elevation except the north where there is a single, multi-light door.

The two non-contributing resources, a pool and pool house, are also located to the rear (south) of the dwelling. The one-story frame pool house stands on a solid brick foundation, laid in common bond. It is sheathed with white weatherboard and covered by a gable roof of standing-

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seam metal. There is a single-leaf door on both the north and west elevations. The door on the west elevation leads out to a porch, extending the length (north to south) of the structure. The windows on the pool house are all six-over-six light, double-hung sash and there is an exterior brick chimney laid in common bond centered on the east elevation. The rectangular-shaped pool is situated west of the pool house, in a small area enclosed by a white picket fence.

Mosby Tavern stands beside one of the major thoroughfares in western Powhatan County as an example of a mid-eighteenth-century structure that has grown through three centuries of architectural modifications. Although the dwelling has undergone extensive additions, each phase of its construction remains recognizable and unaltered. Set among flowerbeds and trees, Mosby Tavern, easily seen by passing motorists, is a true landmark of Powhatan County's past.

8. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mosby Tavern, sometimes called "Old Cumberland Courthouse" is a two-story frame I-house with the first floor and basement rooms west of the center hall dating from the 1740s. It stands in western Powhatan County, Virginia on a well-traveled road (Route 60/Cumberland Court House Road) that has been a major thoroughfare through central Virginia since colonial times. The dwelling is located on a tract of land originally conveyed to Benjamin Mosby by Alexander Kilpatrick in 1740.¹¹ According to the deed, the land was located "on the branches of Deep Creek on the south side of the James River."¹² Mosby built his residence shortly after purchasing the land and used a portion of the dwelling as an ordinary.

Mosby Tavern is historically significant for its association with social and political developments in late colonial Virginia. The frame structure stands on land that is historically associated with three different jurisdictions: Goochland, Cumberland, and Powhatan.¹³ Cumberland County was formed from the western portion of Goochland County in 1749 and Powhatan County was later formed from Cumberland County in 1777. Early land patents on Fighting and Deep Creeks, south of the James River, correspond to what is now Powhatan County.¹⁴ Benjamin Mosby acquired the land on which Mosby Tavern was built when the property fell within the bounds of Goochland County.¹⁵ Mosby Tavern is significant under Criterion A for it served Cumberland and later Powhatan Counties as a courthouse and prison while it was also an ordinary and private residence. The tavern hosted nearly thirty years of court meetings for the Cumberland and later Powhatan courts. It also served as the place of rendezvous for the county militia at the outset of the Revolutionary War. Mosby Tavern is also significant under Criterion B—for its association with Benjamin Mosby (1710-1774) and his son, Colonel Littleberry Mosby, Sr. (1729-1809). Benjamin Mosby served various political appointments, including county surveyor, captain of the militia, and Justice of the Peace, in addition to being a leader in the organization of Cumberland County. Furthermore, Benjamin Mosby operated an ordinary at his home for more

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than thirty years, hosting both social and political activities. Littleberry Mosby, Sr. also served political appointments including sheriff, Justice of the Peace, Representative in the General Assembly, House of Delegates, and member of the Committee of Safety. Littleberry later oversaw the county militia during the Revolutionary War and corresponded with Thomas Jefferson on the state of his command. Today Mosby Tavern is a private dwelling.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE

Mosby Tavern is situated south of U.S. Route 60 in western Powhatan County. The property includes several agricultural buildings built during the first half of the twentieth century, in addition to the main house. Benjamin Mosby acquired this tract of land in 1740 and shortly thereafter opened a portion of his home as an ordinary.¹⁶ The one-room structure that housed the ordinary—beginning in 1741—is the oldest surviving remnant of Benjamin Mosby's eighteenth century property.¹⁷ Mosby continued to operate his ordinary and reside at Mosby Tavern with his family until his death in 1774.¹⁸ The property remained in the Mosby family until the early nineteenth century. It is now a private residence owned by Dr. and Mrs. Donald P. Sanders. The portion of Mosby Tavern that served as an eighteenth-century ordinary is a part of the residence. The additions to the eighteenth-century structure occurred in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.¹⁹

Mosby Tavern is often cited among the early ordinaries of both Goochland and Cumberland Counties. Characteristic of eighteenth-century taverns, the structure was established on a main thoroughfare—in this case, the stage road connecting Richmond and Lexington. Located in a rural area, the tavern was a convenient stopover for travelers in a sparsely settled county. Benjamin Mosby operated the ordinary "at his house" from 1741 to 1774.²⁰ During this time, "one of the most famous incidents in the history of Powhatan County" occurred at Mosby Tavern—the Chiswell-Rutledge duel.²¹ In 1766, Colonel John Chiswell, discoverer of the lead mines in southwest Virginia, and Robert Rutledge, a merchant of Prince Edward County, got into an argument that resulted in Chiswell stabbing Rutledge.²² The murder occurred in the one-room tavern amidst a crowd of patrons.²³

Eighteenth-century taverns were necessary adjuncts to courthouses, especially in newly formed counties with low populations. Benjamin Mosby welcomed local political activity at his residence and tavern as early as 1749 when the new county of Cumberland held its first court there.²⁴ "Benjamin Mosby, Gentleman for the County of Cumberland," agreed to "fit up a prison" and "build a courthouse, prison, pillory, and stocks...at his own expense for the use of this county."²⁵ The tavern hosted nearly thirty years of court meetings for the Cumberland and later Powhatan courts. Mosby Tavern also served as the place of rendezvous for the county

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militia at the outset of the Revolutionary War.²⁶ In later days, the tavern was often referred to as the Old Cumberland Courthouse and historic maps mark Route 60 as Cumberland Court House Road.²⁷ Cumberland court proceedings met at the Mosby residence until 1777 when it fell within the bounds of the new Powhatan County. The Powhatan court convened at Mosby Tavern for two years before it moved to a courthouse in Scottsville.²⁸

The social and political activity in Cumberland County centered, in large part, at Benjamin Mosby's tavern. Although Mosby died in 1774, the family continued to host court meetings and local activities. Therefore, it became a well-known landmark in colonial Virginia by the time the Revolutionary War broke out. In 1776 Old Cumberland Courthouse was "appointed as the Place of Rendezvous" for the county militia and by 1781 Cumberland Old Courthouse had become a repository "for supplies and garrisons for the militia."²⁹ During the Revolutionary War in October 1781, George Washington ordered the remaining "regiment 'be marched to Cumberland Old Courthouse'...and march southward."³⁰ Colonel Christian Febiger responded to General Washington's orders in October 1782 calling the Virginia regiment to assemble "for roll call and marching orders outside Cumberland Old Courthouse in western Powhatan County, Virginia."³¹

While the Mosby family was known for social and political activities at their residence, both Benjamin Mosby (1710-1774) and his youngest son, Littleberry Mosby, Sr. (1729-1809), were also active residents in their counties. Records indicate these men participated in social, political, and religious capacities within their communities throughout their lives. The positions these men attained attest to their standing in an eighteenth century society.

Benjamin Mosby appeared in Goochland County records beginning in 1732, when he was appointed "surveyor of the roads."³² In 1747 Goochland County appointed Benjamin captain of the county militia as well as the esteemed position of Justice of the Peace.³³ Two years later Benjamin became a leader in the formation and organization of a new county. In 1749 a portion of Goochland was sectioned off to form Cumberland County. In May (1749) at a court meeting "held at the house of Benjamin Mosby" the county discussed plans to establish itself, independent of Goochland County.³⁴ Benjamin "agreed to build a courthouse, prison, pillory, and stocks...at his own expense for the use of this county...and provide...convenience for holding courts at this place."³⁵ Benjamin was paid for his services in maintaining the prison and courthouse and "for providing for insolvent debtors..." while he served as the County Jailer beginning in 1751.³⁶ Benjamin's residence—serving as a tavern and the Cumberland County Courthouse—was also fitted up as a prison "to confine Debtors and all persons guilty of the Breach of any Peace Laws."³⁷ Benjamin spent the next several years maintaining his ordinary, the courthouse, and prison. The county compensated him for services including cleaning and repairs, and for guarding the prison through the last years of his life.³⁸

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Littleberry Mosby, Sr. followed his father's activity in the county—primarily in politics. Beginning shortly after Cumberland County was formed, Littleberry appeared in both Cumberland and Powhatan County records annually until ten years before his death. Records indicate that Littleberry served the community in various capacities to encourage a stable and active community. Littleberry's activities began in 1759 when he was "named the Commissioner of the Peace for this [Cumberland] county."³⁹ Littleberry "took oaths and tests...of Justice of the Peace and the oath of a Justice of the county court in chancery" for nearly thirty years following his initial appointment.⁴⁰ During this time, Littleberry also served as a Sheriff, Undersheriff, and Deputy Sheriff for Cumberland County. He later served as the Powhatan County Sheriff.⁴¹ After his last sheriff appointment, Littleberry began his twenty-year service as a "Gentleman Vestryman" of Southam Parish.⁴² While this position warranted significant responsibilities, Littleberry sought further opportunity to serve the new country. In 1775 and 1776 when the Committee of Safety convened at Cumberland Old Courthouse, Littleberry Mosby, Sr. was listed in attendance and among the men chosen to draft the county [Cumberland] resolutions.⁴³ These instructions were among the "first open and audible calls for independence made by any representative group in the colonies."⁴⁴

The following year (1777), Littleberry began his involvement in the Revolutionary War. His service included Military Supply Officer (1777), Colonel (1777), and County Lieutenant (1780-1781).⁴⁵ These positions required Littleberry to be in close contact with Governor Thomas Jefferson regarding the state of the county militia.⁴⁶ Among their correspondence was a "highly complimentary" letter from Jefferson regarding Littleberry's "promptitude and [the] services of his command."⁴⁷ This letter was read when the State Legislature appointed Littleberry a General in 1803.⁴⁸ Littleberry's last political appointment resulted in two terms in the Virginia General Assembly's House of Delegates for Powhatan County from 1779-1782.⁴⁹ He served his terms under Speakers Benjamin Harrison, Richard Henry Lee, and John Tyler.

Thus, Mosby Tavern is a tangible reminder of the important local contributions made by Benjamin Mosby and his son, Littleberry Mosby, Sr., to political life in Virginia in the late colonial period and Revolutionary era.

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Endnotes

¹ Mutual Assurance Policy, Richard Mosby, 1802; 1805; 1815 (Virginia State Library). The 1802 Declaration for Assurance shows a sketch of the dwelling—"a wooden dwelling...one story high"—then valued at \$700.00. The 1805 policy indicates a 34' by 28' "wood covered with wood" dwelling with a "brick cellar under one half." Additionally, the three policies all indicate that the dwelling was "one story high." The measurements for the dwelling, as indicated in the policies, correspond to the size of the west room in the center portion of the house; the brick cellar is underneath this room. The foundation varies from three and four-course American bond on the west side of the front porch, the oldest section of the house corresponding to the small wood dwelling shown on the assurance policy, to six-course and irregular bond patterns on the east side of the porch.

² Powhatan County Land Tax Book, 1951.

³ Ibid., 1990. According to land tax records, this porch and the south chimney were constructed in 1989-1990.

⁴ Ibid., 1849; 1859.

⁵ See file on Mosby Tavern, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Traceries Report, 1991.

⁶ Powhatan County, Historic Architecture Survey, 1991.

⁷ Ibid. The architectural form of Mosby Tavern is similar to that of Derwent, an early I-house also in Powhatan County, dated 1841, and home of Robert E. Lee for a short time.

⁸ Powhatan County Land Tax Book, 1951; 1988. Land tax records indicate a significant rise in the value of the dwelling in 1950 and again in 1988.

⁹ Additionally, the master bedroom, which is in the west wing addition, has exposed pegged beams that appear to have been added in the twentieth century effecting a historic appearance.

¹⁰ It appears that the basement room below the west room on the main floor was at one time habitable. The stairway was executed in a finished style, the walls are plastered, and there are two windows on the north wall.

¹¹ Goochland Deed Book 3:359.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Cumberland County was formed from Goochland County in 1749; Powhatan County was formed from Cumberland County in 1777.

¹⁴ Richard Couture, *Powhatan: A Bicentennial History* (Richmond, VA: Dietz Press, Inc., 1980), 53.

¹⁵ Goochland Deed Book 3:359.

¹⁶ Ibid. The licenses recorded in Goochland and Cumberland Order Books note that Benjamin Mosby kept an ordinary "at his house."

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¹⁷ According to Goochland Order Book 4:545, dated 1741, this is the first record of an ordinary license issued to Benjamin Mosby in Goochland County.

¹⁸ Couture, 69; Cumberland Will Book 2:149.

¹⁹ The 1805 Mutual Assurance Policy notes that it is a "wood dwelling covered with wood."

²⁰ Goochland Order Book 4:545; Cumberland Order Book 10:263; Powhatan Order Book 1:176. Benjamin's son, Littleberry Mosby, Sr., re-opened the tavern for a short time in 1781.

²¹ Couture, 70.

²² *Virginia Gazette*. 18 July 1766.

²³ The meticulous details of the room given in the newspaper—its layout and measurements—correspond to an 1805 Mutual Assurance policy, Richard Mosby. A shed addition, though no longer standing, appears on the east or west elevation of the dwelling in the policy sketch (cardinal directions are not indicated). According to an illustration shown in the *Virginia Gazette* article, the shed addition could be accessed by an interior door next to the chimney.

²⁴ Cumberland Order Book 1:1-3.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Robert L. Scribner and Brent Tartar, eds., *Revolutionary Virginia, The Road to Independence*, vol. VI (USA: UP of VA, 1981), 54.

²⁷ Also often referred to as Cumberland Old Courthouse.

²⁸ Powhatan Order Book 1:94. In 1779 court meetings were moved to the new courthouse. Littleberry Mosby, Sr. oversaw construction of the new courthouse: *Virginia Genealogist*, Volume 26.

²⁹ Couture, 81.

³⁰ John Thornton Posey, "The Turbulent Spirit," *Virginia Cavalcade*, Summer 1990, 7.

³¹ Ibid., 4.

³² Goochland Order Book 3:127; 6:105.

³³ Ibid., 6:299, 371; 8:30.

³⁴ Cumberland Order Book 1:1.

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³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid., 1:61; 2:304; 7:277.

³⁷ Ibid., 1:1-3. Benjamin Mosby's will refers to "three back rooms" in the house he called the "Ordinary." It is likely that one or more of these rooms may have housed the county prison. There is no reference to an independent outbuilding that may have been used for the sole purpose of confinement in either the Assurance Policies or Will. Cumberland Will Book 2:145.

³⁸ Ibid., 1:37; 1(Book 2):3, 61, 89, 60; 7:277.

³⁹ Ibid., 4:24.

⁴⁰ Ibid., 5; 6:377, 7:272, 10:382, 11:247, 330; Powhatan Order Book 1:1. Note: 1782-3 records may be found in Cumberland though Littleberry's position was filled in Powhatan County, formed in 1777 out of Cumberland.

⁴¹ Ibid., 5:80 (1762); 6:47, 165 (1764-5); Powhatan Order Book 5:320 (1797).

⁴² Ibid., 4:24 (1759); Southam Parish Vestry Book, 1745-1836: 169-229. The Vestry book includes a record of Littleberry's service in the Peterville Church as Senior Church Warden, 1772-3 and 1785.

⁴³ Lyon G. Tyler, ed. *William and Mary Quarterly*, (Richmond, VA: Whittet and Shepperson General Printers, 1896), 5:101-103; Lyon G. Tyler, ed. *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, (Richmond, VA: Richmond Press, Inc., 1923), 4:141; *Virginia Gazette*, 25 March 1775.

⁴⁴ Garland Evans Hopkins, *The Story of Cumberland County, Virginia*. (Winchester, VA: private issue, 1942), 26.

⁴⁵ Powhatan Order Book 1:4; Couture, 76; Gwathmey, 568.

⁴⁶ William G. Stanard, ed., *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, (Richmond, VA: Virginia Historical Society, 1909, 1910), 17:443; 18:200; William P. Palmer, M.D., ed., *Calendar of Virginia State Papers*, (Richmond, VA: R.F. Walker, 1875), 1:537-538; (Richmond, VA: James E. Goode [printer], 1881), 2:53. Governor Jefferson called upon Littleberry to raise cavalry to assist Marquis De La Fayette.

⁴⁷ William G. Stanard, ed., *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 18:200.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Cynthia Miller Leonard, comp., *The General Assembly of Virginia, 1619-1978*, (Richmond, VA: Virginia State Library, 1978), 135, 138, 147.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The The nominated property is bounded by a line beginning at a point at the southwest corner of the intersection of U. S. Route 60 and State Route 629; thence running south for approximately 1,400 feet following the west side of State Route 629; then running generally west for approximately 800 feet; thence running northwest for approximately 1000 feet; thence running northeast for approximately 200 feet to the south side of U.S. Route 60; thence running generally east following the south side of U. S. Route 60 for approximately 800 feet to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the twenty-acre parcel being nominated include the dwelling, all outbuildings, and the land immediately surrounding the house.

4163 TRENHOLM
Quas

MOSBY TAVERN,
POWHATAN CO., VA
072-0054

UTM References
Zone 17

E N
① 761330 4162140

② 761600 4161790

③ 761740 4161630

④ 761770 4161090

⑤ 761820 4160840

⑥ 761450 4161410

⑦ 761500 4161580

⑧ 761240 4162060

32'30"

3.3 MI. TO U.S. 522
RICHMOND 32 MI.

(POWHATAN)
5459 III SW

4161

4160

6